

Neighborhood Action Plan

On October 20, 2005, City officials met with neighborhood residents again and asked them to rank neighborhood strategies. Just like the first meeting, it was well attended and represented by neighborhood residents.

Each resident was given the opportunity to cast up to twelve positive votes and five negative votes among the 74 strategies that were presented by the City. Residents could vote on a particular strategy as often as they wanted; however, they were not given any additional votes.

The following highlights the results of the votes cast by the residents by subject category. The “total” number of votes represents the total positive votes less the total negative votes. The categories are listed in the order by which they received the most votes. The Neighborhood Planning Matrix lists the votes received for each strategy and the total for each category.

Traffic Management {total of 60 votes}: About half the total votes were cast to reduce the speeding along city streets. Nearly one third of the votes urged the City to improve visibility at several intersections and synchronize traffic lights. Maintenance and/or replacement of street pavement were also included in these votes.

Action Plan:

- Public Works staff will encourage residents to work through the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program to explore the feasibility of various traffic calming strategies in the neighborhood.
- Public Works staff will evaluate and resolve where feasible poor visibility and line of sights along East Main Street,

2nd Street S.E. and the corners of J, I and G streets.

- Public Works staff will analyze the feasibility of eliminating parking along E Street S.E.

Walkability {total of 57 votes}: Installing new curbs and sidewalks received the most votes (32 of 57 votes). Bicycle paths and non-motorized routes received twelve votes followed by the enforcement of laws and ordinances to prohibit parking on sidewalks and walking paths.

Action Plan:

- Planning and Public Works staff will seek grant funds and other sources of funding necessary to install new curbs, sidewalks and/or walking paths throughout the neighborhood.
- Public Works staff will look at creating additional pedestrian crossings on East Main Street.

Housing and Historic Preservation {total of 38 votes}: Several residents expressed a desire to preserve the historic homes located in the neighborhood. About two-thirds of the 38 votes urged the preservation of the historical properties in the neighborhood; and 10 of 38 votes favored official recognition of historic homes.

Action Plan:

- Planning staff will encourage the historic preservation of older homes by distributing information about ways to preserve and maintain them.
- Planning staff will work with the residents of the neighborhood to seek official recognition of historic homes within the neighborhood.

Crime and Public Nuisances {total of 37 votes}: Public education about nuisances received the most votes followed by encouraging residents to call 911 when witnessing illegal activities and encouraging neighbors to get to know each other, particularly the names of children and teens.

Action Plan:

- Code Enforcement officers will provide residents information and fact sheets about public nuisances.
- Encourage residents to call 911 when witnessing illegal activities.

Open Spaces and Recreation {total of 32 votes}: Supporting Washington Elementary School's plans to develop a community playground/park received the most votes followed by renovating the Veterans Memorial Park by adding more lighting and trails. A few residents suggested the development of a compost site for recycled trees and wood waste.

Action Plan:

- Parks and Planning staff will assist in Washington Elementary School's efforts to design and build a community playground/park.
- Parks staff will encourage civic groups and volunteers to help the City renovate and maintain Veterans Memorial Park

Neighborhood Appearance {total of 22 votes}: Organizing an annual neighborhood clean-up campaign received the most votes (12 of 22 votes) followed by landscaping parking lots (6 of 22 votes).

Action Plan:

- Planning and Solid Waste staff will include the neighborhood as a site in the City's annual Neighborhood Cleanup Campaign.

- Planning staff will continue to require that new developments landscape their parking lots and encourage existing developments to maintain landscape improvements.

Public Services {total of 18 votes}: Approximately thirteen votes were cast to provide residents information about the City's Housing Repair Program along with other programs to help residents maintain their homes. Votes cast regarding strategies pertaining to the mitigation of the Stampede Pass railroad line through the neighborhood were mixed.

Action Plan:

- Planning staff will distribute information about the City's Housing Repair Program.

Land Use {total of 9 votes}: Votes were evenly scattered in this category. A few residents expressed a desire to promote landscape buffers and fencing to separate commercial and residential uses. They also want to encourage commercial uses that minimize vehicular traffic and that are compatible with existing commercial and/or residential-office uses.

Action Plan:

- Planning staff will encourage new commercial developments locate in designated commercial or residential zones that support the needs of the neighborhood residents and minimizes vehicular traffic.